

## **Common Acronyms in Transition and Independent Living**

ACLSA – Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment, free, on-line comprehensive assessment tool for youth. Includes supplemental assessments and integrated case planning and curricula features. [www.caseylifeskills.org](http://www.caseylifeskills.org)

CASA – Court-appointed special advocate; represents youth in court reviews and with children and youth agencies to assure that youth voices are heard in plan development and service delivery.

CPP – Child Permanency Plan; plan developed for children, youth and families by county child welfare agencies.

ELC – Educational Law Center; education rights advocacy and policy group; based in Philadelphia. [www.elc.org](http://www.elc.org)

ETG – Chafee Education and Training Grant; federally-funded grant for youth attending post-secondary institutions. Called Education and Training Voucher in states other than Pennsylvania.

EOP – Educational Opportunity Program; federally-funded program to assist disadvantaged students prepare for and make the transition to post-secondary institutions. May also be called HEOP (Higher Education Opportunity Program.)

IEP – Individualized Education Program; education plan for youth with special needs.

FC – Family Center; state or county-funded programs to assist families at risk with parenting education and skills development for children. Often partner with nutrition programs, literacy and fatherhood initiatives, community organizations, Career Link and 4-H/Cooperative Extension to provide programming, services and resources.

FGDM – Family Group Decision-Making.

FSP – Family Service Plan (see CPP above.)

GAL – Guardian Ad Litem, attorney who represents youth interests in court.

GED – General Equivalency Diploma. Preparation classes often offered at CareerLink and literacy centers as well as in school settings.

IL – Independent Living.

JLC – Juvenile Law Center, advocacy and policy group for children and youth rights; based in Philadelphia. [www.jlc.org](http://www.jlc.org)

LTCC – Local Transition Coordinating Council; service coordination group for children and youth with special educational and support needs; coordinator is usually based in local Intermediate Units.

MA – Medical Assistance; state-funded medical insurance.

NBPB – Needs-Based Plan and Budget; Pennsylvania’s funding process for county children and youth agencies and Independent Living programs.

OVR – Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; state agency which coordinates services, programs and educational services for persons with disabilities.

PDE – Pennsylvania Department of Education.

SIL – Supervised Independent Living.

SWAN – Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network.

TLP – Transitional Living Program; housing program for youth leaving substitute care settings and moving into adult life.

WIA – Workforce Investment Act; career services and employment program for youth; funded by the state and offices usually in Career Link One Stop Centers.

YAB – Youth Advisory Board. Statewide and regional boards which advise the Child Welfare system and advocate for changes. [www.independentlivingpa.org](http://www.independentlivingpa.org)